

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property  
Organization  
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date  
13 January 2005 (13.01.2005)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number  
**WO 2005/003373 A3**

(51) International Patent Classification<sup>7</sup>: **C12Q 1/68**,  
C07H 21/04

(21) International Application Number:  
PCT/US2004/019671

(22) International Filing Date: 18 June 2004 (18.06.2004)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:  
60/482,684 26 June 2003 (26.06.2003) US

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(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every  
kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM,

AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN,  
CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI,  
GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE,  
KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD,  
MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG,  
PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM,  
TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM,  
ZW.

(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every  
kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH,  
GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM,  
ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM),  
European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI,  
FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI,  
SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ,  
GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

**Published:**

- with international search report
- before the expiration of the time limit for amending the  
claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of  
amendments

(88) Date of publication of the international search report:  
14 April 2005

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guid-  
ance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the begin-  
ning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: **FLUOROGENIC NUCLEIC ACID PROBES INCLUDING LNA FOR METHODS TO DETECT AND/OR QUANTIFY  
NUCLEIC ACID ANALYTES**

(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to novel methods for detecting or quantifying nucleic acid analytes through their inter-  
actions with a nucleic acid probe or a pair of nucleic acid probes, wherein the probe or the pair of probes is comprised of at least one  
monomeric LNA moiety and two or more dyes, wherein at least one of said dyes is fluorescent. Preferably the probe or the pair of  
probes is comprised of a combination of two dyes, wherein either both are fluorescent dyes that coactively function as the donor dye  
and the acceptor dye of a FRET system, or wherein one of said dyes is a fluorescent dye and the other is a corresponding non-flu-  
orescent quencher dye. Included in the present invention are novel nucleic acid probes for use in the detection and quantification  
of analytes according to the methods of this invention. The novel nucleic acid probes of the invention are comprised of an n-meric  
nucleic acid comprising any number of 1 to n monomeric locked nucleic acid (LNA) moieties that may be located in any position(s)  
of the nucleic acid sequence. The nucleic acid probes are further characterized in that they are derivatized with one or more dyes,  
wherein said dyes are independently selected from fluorescent dyes or non-fluorescent quencher dyes. The methods provided by the  
invention are based on the change of fluorescence resulting from the hybridization of the inventive nucleic acid probes or pairs of  
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WO 2005/003373 A3

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PCT

(10) International Publication Number  
**WO 2005/003373 A2**

(51) International Patent Classification<sup>7</sup>: **C12Q**  
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PCT/US2004/019671  
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(25) Filing Language: English  
(26) Publication Language: English  
(30) Priority Data:  
60/482,684 26 June 2003 (26.06.2003) US

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**Published:**

— *without international search report and to be republished upon receipt of that report*

*For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.*

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